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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/560,154	01/12/2007	Takayoshi Kawamura	450106-05231	9464

7590 11/12/2009
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, MAIKHANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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11/12/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/560,154	Applicant(s) KAWAMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner MAIKHANH NGUYEN	Art Unit 2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 July 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the amendment filed 07/27/2009.

Claims 9-12 are currently pending. Claims 9 -12 are independent Claims.

Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 9-12 maintain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Koyama** (US 6112010, issued 08/29/2000).

As to Claim 9:

Koyama teaches an information processing apparatus that processes a plurality of pieces of data recorded on a record medium [See Col. 1, line 56 – Col. 2, line 27 → *the picture recording apparatus according to this invention electrically handles still*

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pictures as picture data ... reading pictures (pictorial images) recorded on photographs or books, etc., video tape recorder equipment for reproducing still pictures recorded on a video tape to input them, optical disc reproducing (playback) equipment for reproducing still pictures recorded on an optical disc], comprising the steps of:

- *identification means for identifying encoding systems for the plurality of pieces of data in an edit for which they are connected and successively reproduced [See Col. 6, lines 17 – 65 → management file for carrying out management of correspondence information between respective files in the plurality of picture files, and management information for carrying out, in predetermined recording units of the recording medium, relative position on the recording medium between the management file and the picture file... a data management structure to designate a desired picture file from the plural picture files having different resolutions on the basis of management data of the management file to designate position on the recording medium within the picture file designated by the management file on the basis of the management data of the management information... since management information for designating picture file are all recorded within the management file, even in the case where correspondence state (situation) between picture files and the display order of pictures are changed by editing operation; See also, Col. 22, line 60 - Col. 26, line 5 and Col. 66, lines 45 – Col. 68, line 36];*

- generation means for generating one management information file, that manages the result of the edit so that the management information file contains a group name to which all the encoding systems identified at the identification means belong and recording the management information file in a directory of the recording medium attachable and detachable to and from the information processing apparatus, the directory for the management information file being different from other directories of the record medium [See Col. 2, lines 29-59 → *recording picture data onto a recording medium, wherein directory is formed in a rewritable area of the recording medium and subdirectories are formed within the directory. Then, first management file for carrying out management of all subdirectories, and first index file for recording low resolution picture data for indicating at least one picture file of a plurality of picture files recorded in the respective subdirectories are recorded into the directory. Further, second management file for carrying out management of picture files recorded in the subdirectories and second index file for recording low resolution picture data for respectively indicating all picture files recorded in the subdirectory are recorded into the subdirectory; and See Col. 4, lines 17-40 → reproducing picture data recorded on a recording medium, wherein a directory and subdirectories provided within the directory are formed within a rewritable area of the recording medium, and a first management file for carrying out management of all subdirectories formed within the directory and first index file for recording low resolution picture data for indicating at least one picture file*

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of a plurality of picture files recorded in the subdirectories formed within the directory are recorded in the directory. Moreover, second management file for carrying out management of picture files recorded in the subdirectories and second index files which records low resolution picture data for respectively indicating all picture files recorded in the subdirectories are recorded in the subdirectories. Further, an approach is employed to designate subdirectory on the basis of data recorded in the first management file and the plurality of low resolution picture data recorded in the first index area to reproduce picture file corresponding to the low resolution picture data on the basis of data recorded in the second management file and the plurality of low resolution picture data recorded in the second index file); and

- **determining means for reading the management information file generated at the generation step and recorded on the record medium and determining reproducibility of all the plurality of pieces of data according to the group name contained in the management information file when the plurality of pieces of data are reproduced as the result of the edit [See Col. 63, lines 34-64 → At the step S125, the system controller 6 controls the disc recording/reproducing section 5c so as to read out all management files (overall information management file, picture data management files of respective directories, print control data management file, reproduction control management file) through the storage section controller 5d, and temporarily stores, into the RAM 6a, the all management files which have been read out... it is necessary to display what**

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picture data are recorded in respective directories to cause the user to designate desired picture. For this reason, at the step S128, the system controller 6 controls the disc recording/reproducing section 5c so as to display overall index file recorded on the optical disc 20. Thus, the processing operation proceeds to step S129. The overall index file is a file in which index picture data which are the same as an arbitrary one index picture of index picture data stored in the picture index files below (at the lower level of) respective picture directories are registered in display order of monitor. By monitor-displaying the overall index file, the user can carry out designation of desired index picture; see Col. 68, lines 1-7 → At the step S160, the system controller 6 controls the disc recording/reproducing section 5C so as to read out data U_ TOC, overall information management file and picture data management file in the RAM 6a to write them onto the disc to thereby update the respective data. Thus, the entire routine according to the editing operation of picture is completed; see also, Figs. 38 and 46].

As to Claim 10:

Refer to the discussion of claim 9 above. Claim 10 is the same as Claim 9, except Claim 10 is an information processing method Claim and Claim 9 is an information processing apparatus Claim.

As to Claim 11:

Refer to the discussion of claim 9 above. Claim 11 is the same as Claim 9, except Claim 11 is a recording medium Claim and Claim 9 is an information processing apparatus Claim.

As to Claim 12:

Refer to the discussion of Claim 9 above for rejection. Claim 12 is the same as Claim 9, except Claim 12 is a program Claim and Claim 9 is an information processing apparatus Claim.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicants' arguments filed 07/27/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues in substance that Koyama does not teach "*the management information file contains a group name to which all the encoding systems identified by the identified means belong, the directory for the management information file being different from other directories of the recording medium, and determination means for determining*

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reproducibility of all the plurality of pieces of data according to the group name contained in the management information file.”

The Examiner disagrees. Koyama’s teaching “*recording picture data onto a recording medium, wherein directory is formed in a rewritable area of the recording medium and subdirectories are formed within the directory. Then, first management file for carrying out management of all subdirectories, and first index file for recording low resolution picture data for indicating at least one picture file of a plurality of picture files recorded in the respective subdirectories are recorded into the directory. Further, second management file for carrying out management of picture files recorded in the subdirectories and second index file for recording low resolution picture data for respectively indicating all picture files recorded in the subdirectory are recorded into the subdirectory*” (Col. 2, lines 29-59) and “*reproducing picture data recorded on a recording medium, wherein a directory and subdirectories provided within the directory are formed within a rewritable area of the recording medium, and a first management file for carrying out management of all subdirectories formed within the directory and first index file for recording low resolution picture data for indicating at least one picture file of a plurality of picture files recorded in the subdirectories formed within the directory are recorded in the directory. Moreover, second management file for carrying out management of picture files recorded in the subdirectories and second index files which records low resolution picture data for respectively indicating all picture files recorded in the subdirectories are recorded in the subdirectories. Further, an approach*

is employed to designate subdirectory on the basis of data recorded in the first management file and the plurality of low resolution picture data recorded in the first index area to reproduce picture file corresponding to the low resolution picture data on the basis of data recorded in the second management file and the plurality of low resolution picture data recorded in the second index file” (Col. 4, lines 17-40) covers the limitations as claimed.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record, listed on PTO 892 provided to Applicant is considered to have relevancy to the claimed invention. Applicant should review each identified reference carefully before responding to this office action to properly advance the case in light of the prior art.

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

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advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maikhanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4093. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00am – 5:30 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached at (571) 272-4137.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/MaiKhanh Nguyen/

Examiner, Art Unit 2176

/Laurie Ries/

Primary Examiner

Technology Center 2100

9 November 2009